Overview of NIST's Standards Coordination Office

June 23, 2016

Did you know…

80% of global merchandise trade

Standards Coordination Office (SCO)

SCO provides standards and conformity assessment expertise and services in support of government and industry

Coordination	Guidance	Information Services

SCO Tools and Services

- Interagency Committee of Standards Policy (ICSP)

- WTO Technical Barriers to Trade Inquiry Point

- Notify US

- Standards Information Center

- Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRAs) designation

- Standards and Conformity Assessment Program Development for Federal Agencies

- Laboratory Accreditation (NVLAP)

- Standards Curricula Development Grants

- Standards Training Program

Interagency Committee on Standards Policy

- The ICSP was established in 1968

- Chaired by NIST; Members are Federal Standards Executives and their designated representatives

- Fulfills mandate of OMB Circular A-119 which was strengthened by the passage of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-113)

- Meets 3-4 times per year

- Forms working groups as needed

USA Inquiry Point for World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)

Activities

- Identify, notify, and circulate USA proposed and final regulations
- Circulate customized alerts and offer access to all WTO notifications
- Facilitate the notification comment process
- Provide U.S. trade stakeholders assistance & information in global trade issues
- Answer inquiries from WTO member countries on U.S. technical regulations

Impacts

Serve as a world leader in Inquiry Point operations and best practices	Save US industry time, energy and money	Enhance effectiveness of US trade officials

- **Notify U.S.** is a free, aggregated database of WTO TBT notifications issued and maintained by the U.S. WTO TBT Enquiry Point

- **Notify U.S.** enables you to be immediately informed about changing or proposed regulations in global markets

- **Notify U.S. gives** trade stakeholders an easy way to comment on and potentially influence changing or proposed regulations

- **www.nist.gov/notifyus**

Standards Information Center

A no-charge clearinghouse for standards and conformity assessment information (email: standardsinfo@nist.gov)
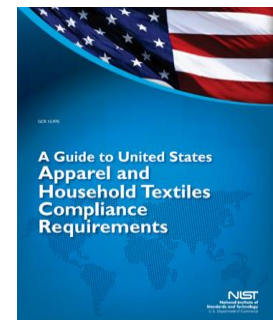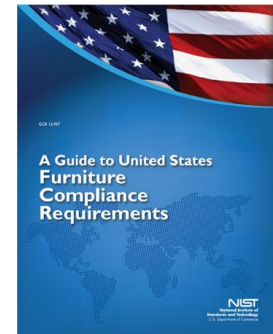
- Customers include the general public, academia, industry, and government agencies

Provides research and analysis on standards to support NIST and other federal agency projects such as

- Disaster resilience

- Forensics

- Security

Research and author *US Compliance Guides*

http://gsi.nist.gov/global/index.cfm/L1-7/A-630/

Facilitating the Trade of Telecommunications Equipment

$40 Billion

ITA's estimated value of **U.S. export of telecommunication equipment** in 2013

Barriers to Trade

Redundant testing/certification

Lack of transparency in foreign regulatory requirements

Solution

Telecommunications **Mutual Recognition Agreements** (MRAs)

✓ MRAs allow U.S. Industry to **test/certify locally** to foreign requirements **prior to export**

Reduce time and cost to market	Improve business opportunities for U.S. industry	Provide Consumers with faster access to latest technologies

NIST Role

NIST, as **Designating Authority**, helps **U.S. labs and certification bodies** obtain recognition from MRA partner countries

Lead Paint in Children's Products

- **Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) of 2008**
  - Decreased regulatory limit for lead in children's products

- **Testing performed around the world**
  - At or near assembly lines, ports of entry, at test labs

- **CPSC's Role (18 months)**
  - create regulations based on interpretation of the law
  - designate approved test methods
  - conformity assessment

- **NIST's Role: Technical Resource**
  - Conformity assessment program development
  - Evaluation, public meetings, method assessment
  - Develop SRM
  - Develop test method through standards committee (ASTM F40)

National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program

✓ Independent, third party assessment of laboratory technical competence against ISO/IEC 17025

✓ Fully fee-supported program established in 1976

✓ Internationally recognized

✓ ~800 current accreditations

✓ Calibration and testing accreditation programs established to support stakeholders, including:

  ➤ Department of Homeland Security

  ➤ Environmental Protection Agency

  ➤ Federal Communications Commission

  ➤ Department of Justice

  ➤ Nuclear Regulatory Commission
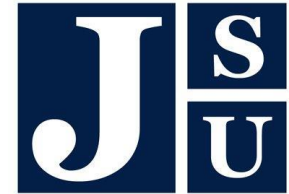
  ➤ Department of Health and Human Services

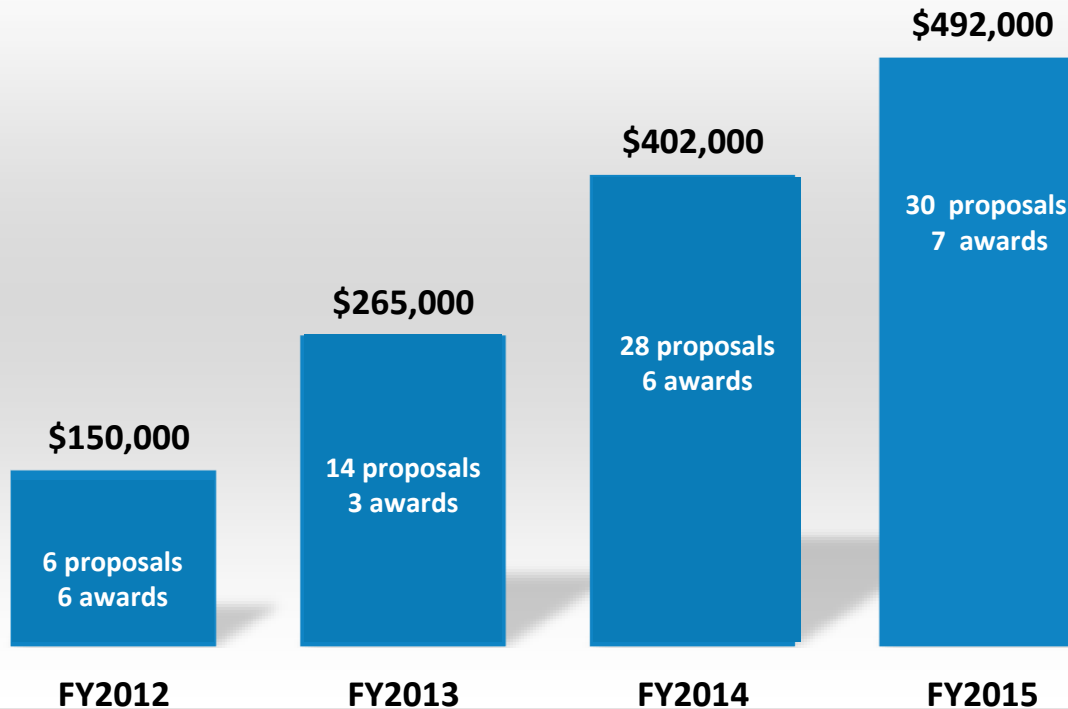# Standards Education Curriculum Grants

$150,000
FY2012
6 proposals
6 awards

$265,000
FY2013
14 proposals
3 awards

$402,000
FY2014
28 proposals
6 awards

$492,000
FY2015
30 proposals
7 awards

Standards Training for USG Agencies

- Fundamentals of standards, conformity assessment, and related topics

- Broad or tailored to meet individual agency needs

- Interactive training environment

- Forum to address agency-specific concerns

- Standards negotiation and leadership skills

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